

Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

News

PLEASE UPDATE

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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Montana State Library

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April 1991

Update No. 19

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA, MONTANA 59620

Legislative Update.....The acid-free paper joint resolution is all the way through the legislative process. Rep. Royal Johnson's (R-Billings) bill to allow state funding for libraries under Chapter 7 MCA passed and has been signed by the governor. The bill exempting libraries' budgets from control by local governments has been approved and also has been signed. Rep. Ted Schye's (D-Glasgow) bill to exempt libraries from I-105 and Sen. Harry Fritz' (D-Missoula) bill to exempt the state librarian's salary from the state pay plan appear to be dead for this session, as does other comprehensive legislation concerning I-105. The forced vacancy savings (staff salaries) in the State Library's budget was amended on the Senate floor earlier this month, changing it from 4% to 2%; the rest of the agency's budget is in fairly good shape but could still be cut back before the end of the session. The \$566,000 passed last biennium is part of the State Library's base budget and appears safe. However, the additional \$437,000 passed by the House and Senate appears to be vulnerable to further reductions. HB 30 establishing a statewide educational telecommunications network has had public libraries amended into the bill, allowing them to buy off any state contracts negotiated for telecommunications equipment. (Note: at press time, this session of the legislature was scheduled to adjourn on Friday, April 26.)

Winners of the Young Reader's Choice Award for 1991 were: *Ten Kids, No Pets*, by Ann M. Martin, and *Sex Education*, by Jenny Davis. (High schoolers voted on the award for the first time this year.) The YRCA is a regional honor chosen by kids in Montana, Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alberta and British Columbia from a preselected list of titles. Up for the 1992 award are (4-8 grades): *Glass Slippers Give You Blisters*, by M.J. Auch; *My Daniel*, by P. Conrad; *Dragon's Milk*, by S. Fletcher; *Martin's Mice*, by D. King-Smith; *Afternoon of the Elves*, by J.T. Lisle; *Number the Stars*, by Lois Lowry; *Alice in Rapture, Sort Of*, by P.R. Naylor; *My Mother Got Married (And Other Disasters)*, by B. Park; *Sky Is Falling*, by K. Pearson; *What Could Go Wrong?*, by W.D. Roberts; *Broccoli Tapes*, by J. Slepian, and *Danger in Quicksand Swamp*, by B. Wallace. Nominated in the 9-12th grade division are: *Eva*, by P. Dickinson; *Sweetgrass*, by J. Hudson; *Wrestling With Honor*, by D. Klass; *Sniper*, by T. Taylor, and *Begonia for Miss Applebaum*, by P. Zindel.

While festivities were taking place in libraries across the state in honor of National Library Week (April 15-19), a public celebration of reading and literacy was also held in the Capitol rotunda. Exhibits were on hand from the State Library, the Office of Public Instruction and Helena's School District 1, and readings were held each day for free books and buttons. A special treat for kids on Wednesday, April 17, featured State Librarian Richard Miller, Attorney General Mark Racicot and Superintendent of Public Instruction Nancy Keenan reading to 1-3 graders from Helena's Ray Bjork School. Wrapping up the celebration on Friday, April 19, were OPI Library Media Specialist (and Library Commission member) Lorrie Monprode-Holt, who entertained adults with storytelling, and Helena writer (and new chair of the Montana Center for the Book executive committee) Rick Newby, who read from an inspired selection of Montana poets.

Although Congressional action has exempted for at least three years non-profit libraries and other non-profit educational institutions from restrictions on renting, leasing or lending computer software, non-profit libraries must now label software with a notice warning patrons that unauthorized copying may violate copyright laws. The language of the warning label will be prescribed by the Register of Copyrights. Congress passed these amendments to copyright law this past October; President Bush signed them into law December 1.

Lodge Grass High School has been chosen to participate in an 18-month Technology for Teaching Project that will link 15 schools from Maine to Hawaii via an educational computer network. Lodge Grass High School librarian Vicki Gale wrote the grant last fall and was notified in February that her school would be a participant. The project will help rural students on the Crow Reservation access information, library and curriculum resources. Gale said she hopes to network with the local elementary school library later on.

A special preconference on fundraising for libraries will be held on Thursday and Friday, June 27-28, in Atlanta in conjunction with the American Library Association's annual conference. The two-day program will discuss private-sector fundraising for libraries, covering funding from foundations, corporations, annual giving, planned giving, direct mail and telephone campaigns. Registration deadline is June 7. For more information, contact ALA's Library Administration and Management Association, 1-800-545-2433, ext. 5038, or 312-280-5038.

The State Library's Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped is seeking volunteers for the Montana Cassette Books Recording Program. A free workshop at the State Library on Thursday, May 16, from 6:30-9 p.m. will introduce new volunteer readers to the art of narration and recording. Bill West, Audio Books Specialist from the Library of Congress, will be the presenter. To preregister or for more information, call Gen Allen by May 10 at 444-2064 or 1-800-332-3400.

The librarian's manual for Montana's first statewide summer reading program--with the theme "Get the 'Bear' Facts - Read!"--is out. It includes camera-ready layouts for posters, registration and membership cards, reading logs, bookmarks and award certificates, plus bear-related bibliographies and craft activities. More than 200 school and 100 public libraries requested a free copy of the manual.

The following meetings and events are scheduled for APRIL/MAY:

April	24-27	Montana Library Association annual conference, Missoula
	27	State Library Commission meeting, Missoula
May	10	Montana Center for the Book executive committee meeting, Helena
	16	Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped volunteer reader workshop, Helena
	17	State Library volunteer appreciation luncheon, Helena
	27	Memorial Day holiday

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